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NATIONAL FOUNDATION FOR THE ARTS AND THE HUMANITIES

National Endowment for the Arts

Agency Information Collection Activities: Proposed Collection; Comment

Request; National Endowment for the Arts Panelist Profile Form

AGENCY: National Endowment for the Arts, National Foundation on the Arts and Humanities.

ACTION: Proposed collection; comments request.

June 1, 2015

SUMMARY: The National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) has submitted the following public information collection request (ICR) to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and approval in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 [Pub. L. 104-13, 44 U.S.C. chapter 35]. Copies of this ICR, with applicable supporting documentation, may be obtained by visiting www.Reginfo.gov.

DATES: Comments should be sent to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Attn: OMB Desk Officer for the National Endowment for the Arts, Office of Management and Budget, Room 10235, Washington, DC 20503 202/395-7316, within 30 days from the date of this publication in the Federal Register.

The Office of Management and Budget is particularly interested in comments which:

Evaluate whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility;

Evaluate the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used.

Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and
Minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques, or other forms of information technology, e.g., electronic submissions of responses.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Agency: National Endowment for the Arts

Title: Panelist Profile Form

Frequency: Every three years

Affected Public: Individuals

Estimated Number of Respondents: 300

Total Burden Hours: 50.0

Total Annualized Capital/Start Up Costs: 0

Total Annual Costs (Operating/Maintaining systems or Purchasing Services): 0

The National Endowment for the Arts' mission is "To strengthen the creative capacity of our communities by providing all Americans with diverse opportunities for arts participation."

With the advice of the National Council on the Arts and advisory panels, the Chairman establishes eligibility requirements and criteria for the review of applications for funding. Section 959 (c) of the Endowment's enabling legislation, as amended, directs the Chairman to utilize advisory panels to review applications and to make recommendations to the National Council on the Arts, which in turn makes recommendations to the Chairman.

The legislation requires the Chairman "(1) to ensure that all panels are composed, to the extent practicable, of individuals reflecting a wide geographic, ethnic, and minority representation as well as to (2) ensure that all panels include representation of lay individuals who are knowledgeable about the arts..." In addition, the membership of each panel must change substantially from year to year and each individual is ineligible to serve on a panel for more than 3 consecutive years. To assist with efforts to meet these legislated mandates regarding representation on advisory panels, the endowment has established an

Automated Panel Bank System (APBS), a computer database of names, addresses, areas of expertise and other basic information on individuals who are qualified to serve as panelists for the Arts Endowment.

The Panelist Profile Form, for which clearance is requested, is used to gather basic information from qualified individuals recommended by the arts community; arts organizations; Members of Congress; the general public; local, state, and regional arts organizations; Endowment staff; and others.

Dated: June 1, 2015.

Kathy Plowitz-Worden

Panel Coordinator

National Endowment for the Arts